

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 FMC-04 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 SSO-00 TRSE-00 SS-20 NSC-10

NSCE-00 SCEM-02 EUR-25 EA-11 L-03 PRS-01 PA-04 USIE-00

CG-00 OMB-01 INRE-00 /114 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TT/MA:RKBANK:EW

APPROVED BY EB/TT/MA:RKBANK

NEA/INS:DBORN

NEA/INS:JLEADER

EB/TT:JMEADOWS

FMC:JWIRTH

MARAD:WSANSONE

----- 100107

O R 112029Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, ENRG, CE, IN

SUBJECT: INABILITY OF US-FLAG VESSEL TO OBTAIN BUNKERS

REF: STATE 234084

1. REFTEL BEING REPEATED ADDRESSEES.

2. WATERMAN LINES (US-FLAG LINE) REPORTS THAT ITS VESSEL, THE C-3 LINER "LASALLE" HAS BEEN REFUSED BUNKERS IN BOTH CALCUTTA AND COLOMBO. DETAILS RE CALCUTTA REFUSAL ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SKETCHY. SHIP'S AGENT IN COLOMBO REPORTS HOWEVER THAT

THE VESSEL, A REGULAR IN THE TRADE, AND A REGULAR CUSTOMER OF EXXON AT THAT PORT HAS BEEN TOLD BY EXXON THAT EXXON HAS BEEN REFUSED NOMINATION BY SRI LANKA AUTHORITIES FOR TWO 500 TON ALLOTMENTS OF BUNKER C FUEL FOR THE "LASALLE." EXXON HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH PETROCYL, WITHOUT SUCCESS. MOREOVER, EXXON IN COLOMBO REPORTED TO WATERMAN THAT OTHER VESSELS ARE REPEAT ARE RECEIVING BUNKERS. WATERMAN NOTES THAT THE VESSEL WILL BE STRANDED UNLESS IT RECEIVES BUNKERS. VESSEL DUE IN COLOMBO AT END OF THIS MONTH. ETA CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 14.

3. USG ALLOCATION REGULATIONS FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW, WILL BE EXPECTED TO CALL FOR THE NON-DISCRIMINATORY ALLOCATION OF BUNKER FUELS IN US PORTS IN REGARD TO FLAGS OF REGISTRATION.

THESE REGULATIONS WILL PROVIDE HOWEVER FOR A MODIFICATION OF SUCH STANDARDS IN REGARD TO NATIONS WHOSE POLICIES DISCRIMINATE AGAINST VESSELS PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES. ALL SIGNIFICANT MARITIME NATIONS, REPORTING THUS FAR, INCLUDING THE USSR, UK, NORWAY, SWEDEN AND JAPAN, HAVE ADOPTED OR WILL ADOPT THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION IN BUNKER ALLOCATION. ADDITIONALLY, IT IS NOTED THAT EXISTING POWERS POSSESSED BY THE FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION UNDER SECTION 19 OF THE MERCHANT MARINE ACT, 1920 PERMIT THAT AGENCY TO TAKE RETALIATORY ACTION AGAINST THE VESSELS OF THOSE NATIONS WHICH DISCRIMINATE AGAINST VESSELS IN THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE US. DEPT SEEKING TO KEEP LID ON POSSIBLY VOLATILE PUBLIC REACTION TO THIS ISSUE WORLDWIDE.

4. EMBASSY COLOMBO REQUESTED TO CONTACT EXXON AND AGENT FOR WATERMAN (AITKEN, SPENCE CO. LTD.), OBTAIN LATEST FACTUAL SITUATION AND ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE FOR THE BUNKERING OF THE "LASALLE." IF UNABLE TO OBTAIN BUNKERS, EMBASSY REQUESTED TO APPROACH APPROPRIATE SRI LANKA AUTHORITIES TO OBTAIN RATIONALE FOR DECISION REFUSING BUNKERS, AND ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE BUNKER QUESTION AT THAT LEVEL. EMBOFFS MAY DRAW UPON INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CEYLONSE.
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5. CONGEN CALCUTTA REQUESTED TO OBTAIN FROM WATERMAN AGENT (ANGUS CO.) CURRENT BUNKER STATUS FOR "LASALLE" AND TO OBTAIN FROM THE SHIPPING COMMUNITY GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF BUNKER SITUATION IN CALCUTTA ALONG LINES DISCUSSED IN PARA 4 REFTEL. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 11 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: RKBANK:EW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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